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SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREF](#) [NI](#)

SUBJECT: AMBASSADORS' FUND FOR REFUGEES: NIGERIA
PROPOSAL

REF: A. STATE 27113

[1](#)B. LAGOS 722

[1](#)C. May 25, 2005, email from C. Chang to S. Litke

[1](#)1. This is a revision of the proposal submitted in reftel B. As requested in ref C, this revised submission proposes the Nigerian Red Cross (NRC) rather than the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as the grant recipient.

Proposal Summary

[1](#)2. The Oru Refugee Camp in Ogun State, Nigeria, has a critical need for latrines. The UNHCR minimum standard is one latrine per 20 people; at one latrine per nearly 70 people, Oru Camp falls below this standard. Mission proposes a grant of \$20,000 from the 2005 Ambassadors' Fund for Refugees to the Oru Refugee Camp to build 18 latrines. These latrines, along with 10 being constructed with UNHCR funds, would bring the ratio to one latrine per 27 people. If this proposal is approved, the Nigerian Red Cross will manage and implement the project. The NRC projects the new latrines would be completed within two months of the availability of the funds.

Justification

[1](#)3. About 5,300 refugees, primarily Liberian and Sierra Leonean, reside at the Oru Refugee Camp. However, much of the assistance provided in the camp does not meet acceptable standards because of funding constraints caused by the influx of Liberians in May and June 2003. (This influx resulted in significantly more refugees without a commensurate increase in UNHCR funding.) In the area of sanitation, all indicators, save one, are below standards. The number of people per communal latrine is 68, against a standard of 20; the number of people per communal shower is 66, against a standard of 50, the percentage of dwellings with individual latrines is 28%, against a standard of 100%; and the percentage of communal buildings with adequate water and sanitation is 72%, against a standard of 100%. Funding is urgently needed to build more latrines, thus improving water and sanitation conditions. This project will especially assist women and young girls as the new latrines will help them avoid having to venture into isolated areas, where they are vulnerable to sexual exploitation and gender-based violence.

[1](#)4. Thirty-five additional latrine units would bring the camp within the standard of one latrine per 20 persons. UNHCR Nigeria will fund the construction of 10 latrine units in 2005. The 18 additional units proposed in this project will bring the ratio to one latrine per 27 people and position the camp to achieve the UNHCR standard in 2006. The project will improve general environmental conditions in the camp as well as the quality of water from hand pumps used for drinking purposes.

Code of Conduct

[1](#)5. NRC follows the UNHCR code of conduct. Mission has received a copy of the UNHCR Nigeria code of conduct. The code meets the core principles listed in reftel.

Mission Capacity to Award Grant

[1](#)6. Mission has the contract authority and capacity to award a grant to the NRC prior to the end of FY2005.

[1](#)7. This cable has been cleared by Embassy Abuja and USAID.

